in unreserved lands and supply the requirements of the ryots in the matter of twigs and leaf manure on payment of a reasonable price. The Member knew that about 80 acres of land in the Kurichi *pakuthi*, set apart as grazing grounds, were now being sought to be registered in the names of applicants. He said that the above tract as well as similar plots of ground should be set apart for the supply of green manure.

Lastly, the Member suggested that there should be an enactment making Government decisions once made in regard to encroachments affecting *punja* lands binding upon them and estopping the Government to plead in contravention of those decisions. For that purpose, he suggested that the limits of all *poramboke* lands should at once be surveyed and demarcated and that, after that was done, the owners of lands outside those limits should have no further trouble from the Revenue officers.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

58. Agricultural needs of the Todupuzha taluk.

Mr. Ipe Uttuppu (Member, Todupuzha taluk) said that the total area of the taluk was 1,15,181 acres, of which about 65,000 acres were garden lands. The people of the taluk, therefore, depended mainly on cultivating dry lands. Formerly, the only cultivation conducted was *malavirippu* cultivation. That was done once in six or seven years. At present, however, foreign capitalists and speculators got lands registered in their names and started the cultivation of rubber, pepper, etc. in the taluk. There had been a general awakening in the taluk for starting cultivation on modern lines. But the people could not get much help from the Agricultural Department. To enlighten the ryots and advise them on scientific methods of cultivation, the Member prayed that a qualified Agricultural Inspector might be sanctioned for the taluk. He also prayed for the establishment of an experimental farm and a manure depot in the taluk.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

59. Opening of a manure depot in the town of Quilon.

Mr. Stephen Joseph (Member, Nominated) said that the need for a manure depot at Quilon was brought to the notice of the Government at the last two sessions of the Assembly and that no action was taken for opening one. If a depot could be opened at Quilon, it would serve the whole division, as there were ample facilities for distribution both by land and water. The Member added that the absence of a depot at Quilon was a source of hardship to the ryots many of whom followed the antiquated way of finding their own manure owing to the difficulties in procuring the manure prepared by the Agricultural Department.

Dewan.—Arrangements have been made for supplying manure to the ryots at Quilon, from the depot at Kayenkulam, at the same prices at which it is sold at the latter depot.

The Member said that the people did not take advantage of it and prayed for the opening of a manure depot at Quilon.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

60. Need for the free treament of animals in the Veterinary Hospital at Nagercoil.

Mr. D. Francis (Member, Nominated) said that Nanjanad was an agricultural centre, that all the people owned cows, bullocks and buffaloes and that they did not freely avail themselves of the Veterinary Hospital at Nagercoil, as the institution charged fees for consultation and medicine for all sick animals taken there for treatment. Under section 2 of the rules on the subject, animals used for agricultural purposes belonging to poor ryots or those who could not afford to pay for treatment got free treatment in the Veterinary Hospitals. But it was difficult for the officers to judge who were poor and who were not, which were plough bulls and which were not, and, consequently, they sometimes levied fees from the poor, the rich escaping payment. No fee was charged for the cattle treated by the officers when on circuit and there was no rule authorising them to

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do so. The rules were, therefore, incomplete. The total receipts for 1091 in the Veterinary Hospital at Nagercoil amounted to about Rs. 208, and the total disbursements, to Rs. 2,491. The receipts came to only 1/12 of the expenditure. If treatment was given free, perhaps another sum of Rs. 500 has to be spent by the Government. But the ryots would thereby be greatly benefited.

Taking the statistics of the cases treated, the Member pointed out that the total number of animals treated during 1091, both in the hospital and in the circuit camps of the officers, was 1,013; or, a little less than 3 cases daily. That was not sufficient work for the existing staff attached to the hospital. If treatment was given free, there would be no necessity for increasing the staff. Only the allotment for the purchase of medicines would have to be slightly increased. As the ryots were poor, they could not afford to have cart bulls distinct from plough bulls. They used plough bulls also as cart bulls. The number of horses was very limited and the Government would not be losers by treating sick horses also free. In consideration of those points, the Member prayed that the treatment of animals in the Veterinary Hospital at Nagercoil might be made *free*.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

61. Want of grazing grounds in the town of Attungal.

Mr. K. N. Parameswaran Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Attungal) represented that, since 1057, the town of Attungal had risen much in importance and that, though the T. I. C. was formed only four years ago, there had been more than 200 applications for building houses. The difficulty of feeding cows was being keenly felt. A few acres of land had, no doubt, been set apart for grazing purposes in the Chirayinkil taluk; but that was at the northernmost extremity bordering on the Quilon taluk. It might serve Navaikulam, Paravur and other places, but not Attungal. It was, therefore, imperative that grazing grounds should be set apart for the benefit of the cattle of the place.

Dewan.—The Peishkar has reported that there are no unregistered lands available for being reserved as grazing grounds at Attungal and that the only alternative is to acquire lands on payment of compensation. It may not be possible to *acquire* lands and reserve them as grazing grounds.

Member.—The T. I. C. has a balance of more than Rs. 2,000. This should suffice to purchase four or five acres of land which could be set apart as a pasture-ground.

To the Dewan's query whether the grazing ground was intended to benefit only the town and whether the T. I. C. funds could be utilised for the purpose, the Member said that he proposed the reservation of a grazing ground for the T. I. C. town of Attungal and not for the whole taluk and that, if a light fee was levied on every head of cattle grazing in the area to be set apart, the T. I. C. would have receipts under that head. He added that the people of the town would have no objection to the course proposed by him.

Dewan's reply.—The suggestion of the Member will be considered.

62. Agriculture and Industries.

Mr. M. R. Parameswaran Pillai (Member, Shertallai taluk) said that the prosperity of a country depended upon the development of agriculture and industries and that the attention paid to the subject in Travancore was not adequate. It was more than 8 years since the Department of Agriculture was organised in Travancore. The expenditure incurred on the department in 1091 was Rs. 76,440, which worked only to ·5 per cent of the total revenue of the State. That sum could not be regarded as sufficient. The cultivation of the chief produce in the State, namely, paddy and cocoanut, did not show any signs of expansion or improvement with the increase of population. The people depended upon Burma and other foreign countries for the supply of paddy to meet their requirements. The Member was of opinion that, if the wet lands in the State were cultivated on improved scientific

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